

## The Rebel Flag of the Twenty-Sixth, Louisiana Regiment

J. M. Hiatt

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## A BIFORMED KITTEN.

This most remarkable natural curiosity has come to hand. It is a singular freak of nature, (*lusus naturae*), in the shape of a kitten with one head, four ears, eight legs, and two bodies from the breast backward, with two tails,—disproving the proverb of “a cat not wanting two tails.” It is presented to the cabinet of the State Historical Society, by Capt. J. M. White, of Sioux City, Iowa, through the agency of N. Levering, Esq. At the solicitation of the Librarian, it was forwarded to Iowa City, carefully preserved in alcohol, instead of being sent to the Smithsonian Institute, in Washington, D. C.

It is on exhibition, at the Historical Rooms, Wednesday, P. M., and Saturday, A. M.

In the same box, by express with pretty round charges, came a piece of the coffin of Sergeant Floyd, of Clark’s expedition over the Rocky Mountains, who died at what is now Sioux City, and was buried there in 1804. And, of late, to save his remains from being washed away with the bank of the Missouri river, a committee of citizens, with N. Levering, Esq., Chairman, disinterred the bones and reburied what was left of the first white man ever interred in that region.

For these and other favors, the Society is under special obligations to Mr. N. Levering, who has done much to promote the circulation of the Annals, and to advance the interests of the Historical Society of Iowa. Both Captain J. M. White and N. Levering, Esq., in this connection, will please accept this public acknowledgment of their favors.—[EDITOR.]

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THE REBEL FLAG OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH, LOUISIANA  
REGIMENT.

We thankfully acknowledge the receipt of the trophy of our arms, named below, from the hand of General N. B. Baker. It contains over one hundred shot holes through the bars of the cloth; having no stars on the ground, and at least seven shots through a part or whole of the staff. It must have been in the

hottest of the battle, as indicated by the letter below. Mr. J. M. Hiatt, or some one acquainted with the history of the flag, will confer a favor by giving more fully an account of it, and the time and place of its surrender to our gallant "30th Iowa."—[EDITOR.]

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE, }  
KEOKUK, September 15, 1863. }

*My Dear General:*

I forward to you, by Lieutenant Newport, the flag of the twenty sixth Louisiana, surrendered to the Iowa Thirtieth, at Vicksburg. The Regiment wish it placed among other trophies of Iowa valor.

A rebel soldier of that Regiment, [26th La.,] was in my office the other day. He said four men were killed holding this flag, at Champion Hills. That it has been within reach of our rifles is very evident.

I am truly yours, &c.,  
J. M. HIATT.

GEN. N. B. BAKER.

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 The Press of Iowa will give attention to the following letter, and make due correction.—[ED. OF ANNALS.]

HEAD QUARTERS, 80TH IOWA VOLS., }  
CAMP WOODS, ON CLEAR CREEK, MISS., }  
October 9th, 1863. }

*N. B. Baker, Adjt. Gen. of State of Iowa :*

I have noticed, with regret, an error in the Iowa papers, in regard to a captured Flag, which I forwarded to you from Vicksburg, to be placed in the State Historical Society.

The Flag was captured at Vicksburg, on the 4th of July, 1863, from the 26th Louisiana, and not at Champion Hills, as stated in the papers.

By giving this correction in the leading Iowa papers, you will confer a favor on me and my regiment.

Respectfully your obd't servant,  
W. M. G. TORRENCE,  
Col. 80th Iowa Vols.

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